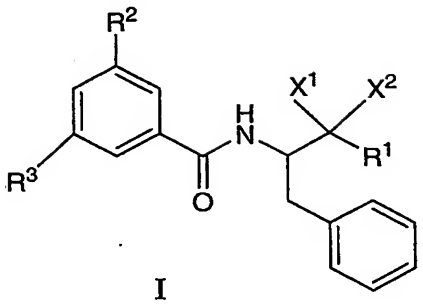
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

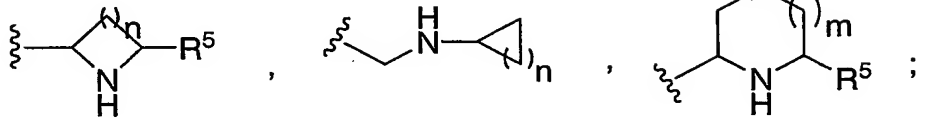
1. A compound of the formula I:



I

wherein:

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of:



R^2 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) R^4-$S(O)_m$-NR^5-,

(2) R^4-$S(O)_m$-,

(3) R^4NHCO-,

(4) R^4CONH-,

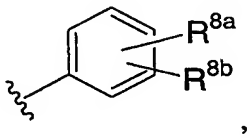
(5) R^4R^5N-,

(6) nitrile,

(7) NC- C_{1-6}alkyl-,

(8) halogen,

(9)

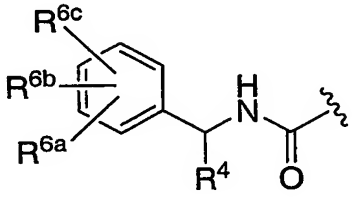


, and

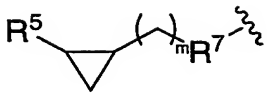
(10)

;

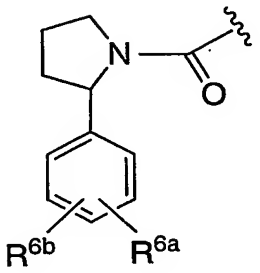
R^3 is selected from the group consisting of:



,



, R^5-R^7- ,



;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen,

(2) C_{1-6}alkyl,

(3) phenyl, and

(4) benzyl;

R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen;

(2) C_{1-6}alkyl,

(3) phenyl,

(4) benzyl, and

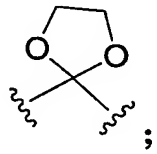
R^{6a}, R^{6b}, and R^{6c} are independently selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen,

(2) halogen,
(3) $-OR^5$,
(4) $-SR^5$, and
(5) C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of -C=C-, O, S, and NH;

Z is selected from the group consisting of CO, CH-OH, CH-F and


;

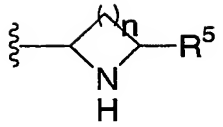
R^{8a} and R^{8b} are independently selected from the group consisting of:
(1) nitrile
(2) hydrogen,
(3) halogen,
(4) $-OR^5$,
(5) $-SR^5$,
(6) C_{1-6}alkyl,
(7) $-CO_2R^5$, and
(8) tetrazolyl;

X^1 is hydrogen and X^2 is hydroxyl, or X^1 and X^2 together form oxo;
n is independently 1, 2, 3, or 4;
m is independently 0, 1, or 2;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. The compound of Claim 1 wherein X^1 and X^2 together form oxo.

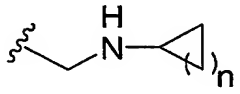
3. The compound of Claim 1 wherein X^1 is hydrogen and X^2 is hydroxyl.

4. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^1 is:



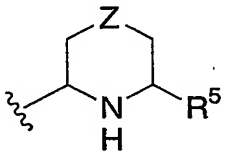
and wherein:
n is 2 or 3; and
R^5 is hydrogen or methyl;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

5. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^1 is:

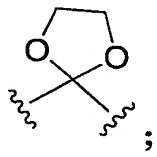


and wherein n is 1, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^1 is:



and wherein:
R^5 is hydrogen or methyl;
Z is selected from the group consisting of CO, CH-OH, and



;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

7. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^2 is:

$R^4\text{-}S(O)_2\text{-}NR^5\text{-}$

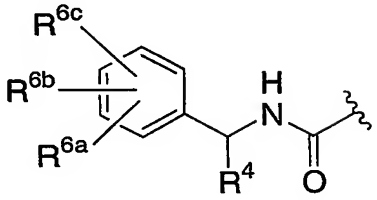
and wherein R^4 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-6}alkyl,
(3) phenyl, and
(4) benzyl;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of:
(1) C_{1-6}alkyl,
(2) phenyl,
(3) benzyl, and
(4) hydrogen;

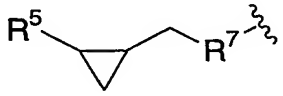
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

8. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^3 is:



and wherein:
R^4 is methyl;
R^{6a} is H or F;
R^{6b} and R^{6c} are hydrogen;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

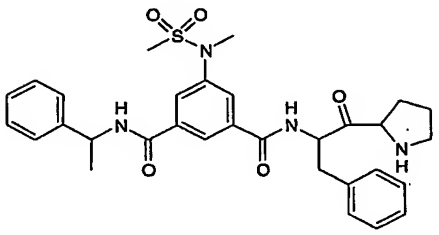
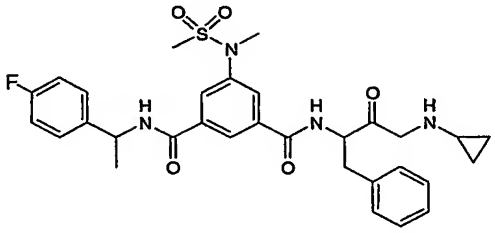
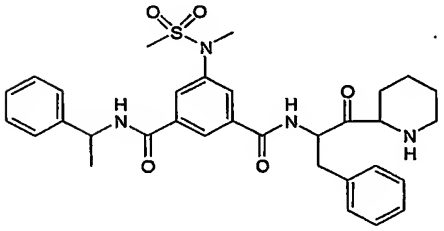
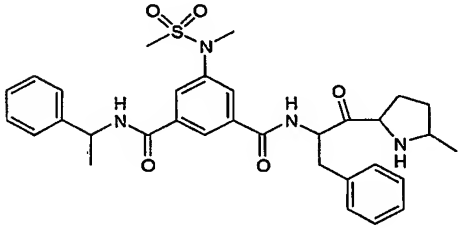
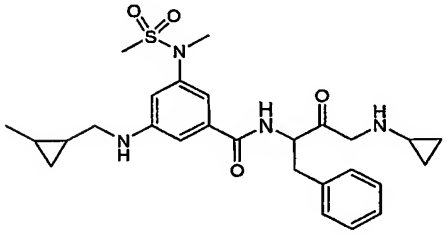
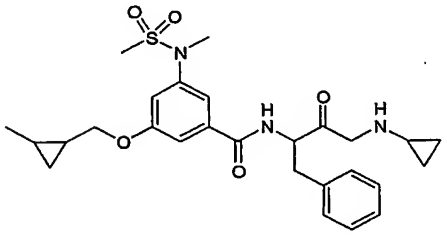
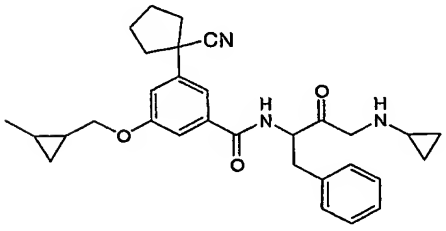
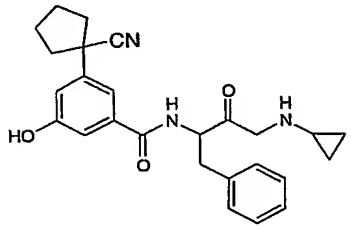
9. The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^3 is:

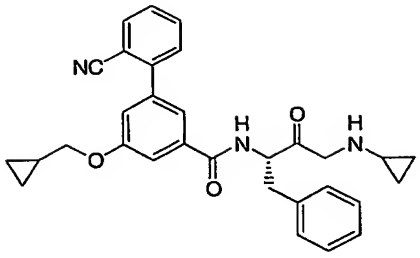


wherein:
R^5 is methyl;
R^7 is O or NH;

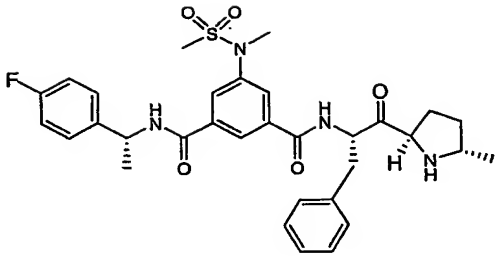
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

10. The compound of Claim 2 which is selected from the group consisting of:


,

,

,

,

,

,

,

,

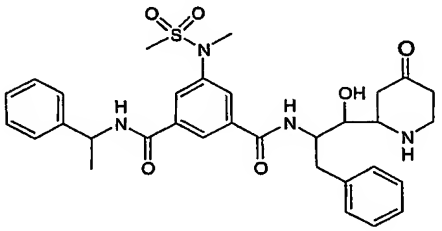


;

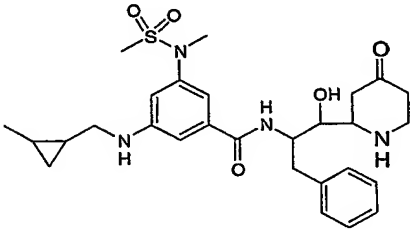


and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

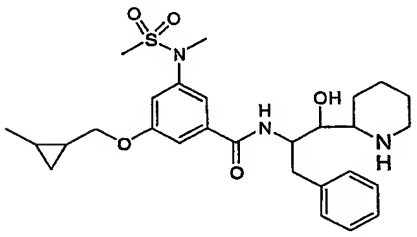
11. The compound of Claim 3 which is selected from the group consisting of:



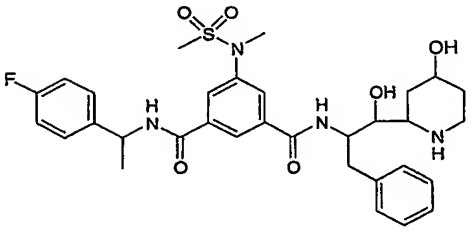
,



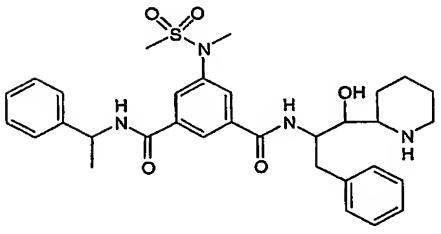
,



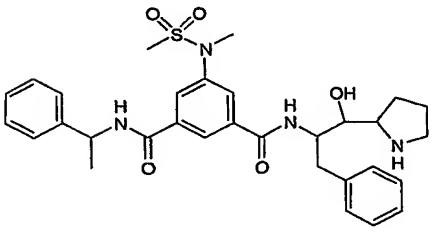
,



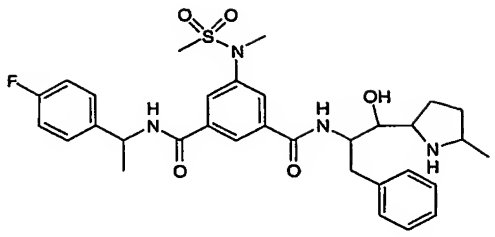
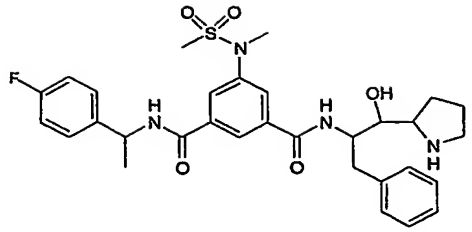
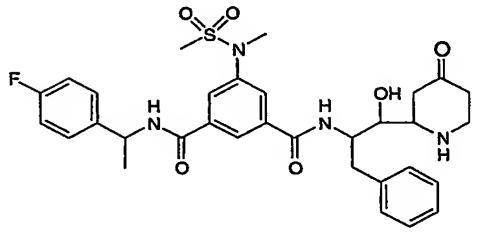
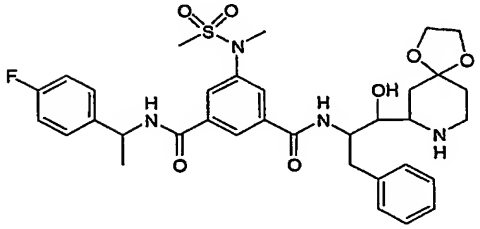
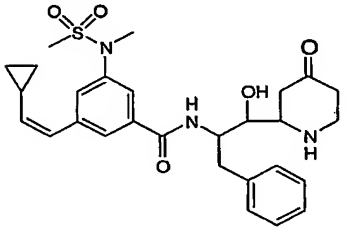
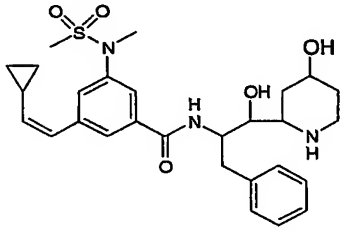
,



,



,


,

,

,

,

,

;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

12. A compound of Claim 1 in substantially diastereomerically pure form.

13. A substantially diastereomerically pure compound of Claim 1 in substantially enantiomerically pure form.

14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15. A method for inhibition of β-secretase activity in a mammal which comprises administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

16. A method for the manufacture of a medicament for inhibition of β-secretase activity in a mammal comprising combining a compound of Claim 1 with a pharmaceutical carrier or diluent.

17. A method for treating, preventing, controlling, ameliorating or reducing the risk of Alzheimers disease in a patient comprising the administration to the patient of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.